

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION**

Education Committee Meeting

LOCATION

Country Kitchen Restaurant

Meeting Date

February 15, 2009

5:00-6:30 pm

Voting Members:

Kris Johnston, Chair
Anna Attla
Julie Broyles
Debbie Kitelinger
Ric Nelson
Chris Saddler

Community Members:

Hillary Hardwick
Karen Jenkins
Sarah Souders

Staff:

Teresa Holt

CALL TO ORDER – 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Welcome from the Chair

Announcements and Good News

Approval of Minutes

As we did not have a quorum, the minutes were not approved.

Correspondence

We did not discuss the correspondence listed on the agenda due to lack of time.

Review Annual Performance Report Indicators

Indicator 1: % of youth with IEPs graduating with diploma vs graduation rate

YEAR	WITHOUT IEP	WITH IEP	TARGET
2004	63.7%	39.1%	
2007	65.2%.	40.1%	44.1%

The group agreed that the disparity between the students with IEPs and without IEPs was not acceptable. This led to a discussion of the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam (HSGQE) and how this affects the graduation rate for students with IEPs. Next the group briefly reviewed the state improvement activities. The group decided each member will look at the improvement activities in more depth and come up with suggestions for the next meeting. These suggestions will be brought forward to the full Council for review at the May meeting and to the Department of Education. It was also suggested that we consider this for our work plan next year.

Indicator 2: % of youth with IEPs dropping out vs drop out rate

YEAR	WITHOUT IEP	WITH IEP	TARGET
2004	6.2%	5.0%	
2007	5.0%	5.7%	4.3%

If you look at the chart on page 8, there was a significant increase in the drop out rate for students with IEPs in 2005 (up to 6.0%). Again the group felt this might be due to the HSGQE. Next the group briefly reviewed the state improvement activities. The group decided each member will look at the improvement activities in more depth and come up with suggestions for the next meeting. These suggestions will be brought forward to the full Council for review at the May meeting and to the Department of Education. It was also suggested that we consider this for our work plan next year.

Transition/ ATOP information-Gail Greenhalgh, SERRC

Gail works at the South East Regional Resource Center and is the staff for the Alaska Transition Outcomes Project (ATOP). Gail helps districts put on week long transition camps for students with disabilities and without. She works with school/district staff to create a camp that is tailored to each community's needs and culture. She works with both teachers and community members to map the community before the camp. Participants in the camp include students (with and without disabilities), teachers, parents and community members. Each day of the camp is focused on one area of the transition goals. The camp incorporates person centered planning for all the participants. At the end of the camp, the group completes a community volunteer project. Also each person leaves camp with a plan that includes specific steps towards their own transition goals. A couple of school districts (Fairbanks and Yukon Koyokuk) have embraced this process and hold camps each year. Chevak is working with Gail to plan a camp this year which would include all high school students.

The committee was impressed with Gail's ATOP program. They discussed holding a transition camp prior to ASSEC next year. Also the group brainstormed ways for committee members to attend a transition camp first hand. They also thought Council members and Trustees should attend one. Chris Saddler gave Gail the contact information for the new Trustee from Fairbanks to see if she could get him to attend the Fairbanks camp this year. The Committee also agreed to try to recommend additional funding to the Council and Trust for this program.

Review of 2008-2009 Work Plan

Review RTI comments

The committee did not review the RTI comments.

Review Draft Work Keys regulations comments

The Committee reviewed the draft Work Keys regulation comments and approved sending them on to the Executive Committee.

Review draft 504 survey

The committee reviewed the survey and discussed the need to make the survey more "friendly" so as to get districts to complete it. The survey will be sent to district 504 coordinators. Council staff will contact districts to find the

name and email of the 504 coordinator. Teresa explained that we will send out a survey using Survey Monkey. We will send it again to those districts that do not respond. We will make a final phone contact to those districts that do not respond to Survey Monkey.

Review draft Education Committee brochure

The group decided:

- Front panel-chose option 1
 - Panel 2-chose option 3 “Why participate on the Education Committee?”
- The following people were volunteered to give quotes to answer this question: Ric Nelson, Chris Saddler, Debbie Kitelinger, Julie Broyles, Eric Gebhart and Art Arnold.

Review of the January Governor’s Council Meeting in Juneau

Kris and Teresa provided a summary of the Council meeting. The Council’s top priorities were: Community Provider Rate Review, Infant Learning Program funding, Autism initiatives, Crisis Response Team. The first day of the meeting was Wednesday, January 28th and the Council heard updates from the various Departments. On Thursday, the Council members received training on the priorities and meeting with legislators as well as held a community gathering and public testimony in the evening. On Friday, Council members met with all the legislators and heard committee reports. The next Council meeting will be May 5-7 in Ketchikan. The Education Committee will need to have priorities ready for the Council to vote on for that meeting.

Next Meeting

March 18th at 9 am by teleconference

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.